

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OGEN SHUM PGOV CI
SUBJECT: LETELIER/MOFFITT CASE: DEVELOPMENTS MARCH 7

REF: A) SANTIAGO 1539, B) SANTIAGO 1479

BUENOS AIRES FOR LEGAL ATTACHE

1. IN AN "EL CRONISTA" INTERVIEW PUBLISHED MARCH 8, INES MARIANA CALLEJAS: ACKNOWLEDGED THAT MICHAEL TOWNLEY IS HER HUSBAND, IDENTIFYING HIM AS BLOND, WITH BLUE EYES; DENIED THAT HE IS JUAN WILLIAMS ROSE; ASSERTED THAT IT CAN BE PROVED THAT SHE AND TOWNLEY WERE IN SANTIAGO AT THE TIME OF THE LETELIER ASSASSINATION; CHARGED THAT SHE AND TOWNLEY ARE HAPLESS PAWNS IN A MARXIST PLOT AGAINST THE GOC; THAT TOWNLEY IS PRESENTLY IN THE SOUTH OF CHILE BUT IS WILLING TO APPEAR BEFORE COURT OFFICIALS; AND CLAIMED THAT HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH RAFAEL UNDURRAGA (DESCRIBED BY "LA SEGUNDA" AS ALEJANDRO ROMERAL) IS STRICTLY PROFESSIONAL (BOTH ARE ELECTRONICS TECHNICIANS). COMMENT: SHE OFFERED NO EXPLANATION FOR HER MARCH 4 STATEMENT (REF B) DENYING ANY CONTACT WITH TOWNLEY SINCE 1973 AND GIVING A CONTRASTING PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF HIM.

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2. GOC ACTIONS. UNDERSECRETARY MGF INTERIOR ENRIQUE MONTERO DEPARTED UNEXPECTEDLY FOR THE U.S. MARCH 7, REPORTEDLY TO SEE PROPPER AND OBTAIN FURTHER DATA ON THE LETELIER CASE. HUMBERTO ALVAREZ, NUMBER TWO IN THE GOC CONSULAR OFFICE AT THE TIME THE TWO OFFICIAL PASSPORTS WERE ISSUED, AND PRESENTLY CONSUL GENERAL IN NEUGUEN (ARGENTINA), ARRIVED FOR CONSULTATIONS, CLAIMING THAT HE IS HERE TO REPORT ON HIS PRESENT WORK. SPECIAL INVESTIGATING

JUDGE MARCOS LIBEDINSKY TOLD REPORTERS THAT HIS INVESTIGATION IS LIMITED TO THAT OF POSSIBLE IRREGULARITIES IN THE ISSUANCE OF PASSPORTS. HE SAID THERE IS NO TIME LIMIT BUT THAT SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT EZYAGUIRRE HAS TOLD HIM TO WORK AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

3. OTHER MEDIA REVELATIONS/OPINIONS. HOY MAGAZINE PRINTS TWO ITEMS OF INTEREST. DIRECTOR EMILIO FILIPPI COMMENTS IN HIS LEAD EDITORIAL THAT GOC JUDICIAL COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. IN THE LETELIER MATTER WOULD BE THE BEST DEMONSTRATION OF CHILEAN JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE AND WOULD GO FURTHER IN IMPROVING CHILE'S INTERNATIONAL IMAGE THAN ANY PROPAGANDA. THE NEWS STORY ON THE LETELIER CASE REPORTS THAT CARLOS GUILLERMO OSORIO, CHIEF OF THE CONSULAR OFFICE IN AUGUST 1976, HAD SIGNED THE OFFICIAL VISA REQUESTS FOR WILLIAMS AND ROMERAL, AND THEN NOTES THAT OSORIO DIED OCTOBER 22, 1976 FROM WHAT WAS REPORTED TO BE A SELF-INFLICTED GUNSHOT WOUND TO THE HEAD, BUT THAT HIS BODY WAS SUBSEQUENTLY EXHUMED, AND THAT A FINAL REPORT HAS NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED.

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